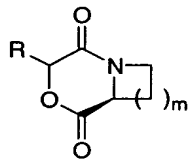
WHAT IS CLAMED IS:

1. A process of preparing a compound of Formula I



I

wherein

R is

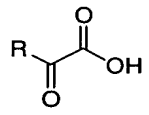
a) C_{1-6} alkyl unsubstituted or substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from C_{6-10} aryl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, halogen, and amino; or

b) a 6-10 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aryl ring system, unsubstituted or substituted with one, two or three groups independently selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, halogen, and amino group; and

m is 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5;

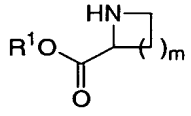
comprising:

a) coupling a keto acid of Formula II,



II

in presence of a peptide coupling reagent, with a compound of Formula III



III

wherein

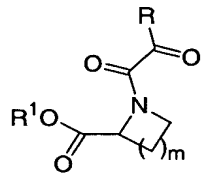
R^1 is

a) C_{1-6} alkyl unsubstituted or substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from C_{6-10} aryl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, halogen, and amino;

b) benzyl unsubstituted or substituted with one, two or three groups independently selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, halogen, and amino; or

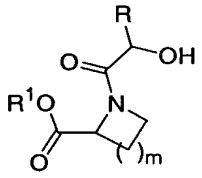
c) hydrogen;

to produce a a ketoamide of Forumla IV,



IV

b) reducing ketoamide of Formula IV to produce a hydroxyamide of Formula V,



V and;

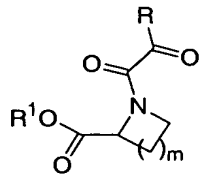
c) cyclizing the hydroxyamide of Formula V in the presence of an acid to produce a compound of Formula I.

2. The process of claim 1 wherein R is an unsubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl.

3. The process of claim 2 wherein R group is tert-butyl and m=1.

4. The process of claim 1 wherein R^1 is methyl and m=1.

5. A compound of Formula IV or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,



IV

R is

a) C_{1-6} alkyl unsubstituted or substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from C_{6-10} aryl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, halogen, and amino; or

b) a 6-10 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aryl ring system, unsubstituted or substituted with one, two or three groups independently selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, halogen, and amino group;

R^1 is

a) C_{1-6} alkyl unsubstituted or substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from C_{6-10} aryl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, halogen, and amino;

b) benzyl unsubstituted or substituted with one, two or three groups independently selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, halogen, and amino; or

c) hydrogen; and

m is 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5.

6. A process of Claim 1, wherein the peptide coupling agent is 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide.

7. A process of Claim 1, wherein the acid is p-toluene sulfonic acid.